

## **Technology Advisory Committee**

### **Meeting Minutes**

**April 10, 2008**

The Technology Advisory Committee met on April 10, 2008 in City Hall Council Chambers.

#### **I. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 10:10 a.m.

#### **II. Roll Call**

☒ Chris Price – Chair

☐ Mark Farr

☐ Oakel Hardy

☐ Mike Jamerson

☒ Mark McHolland

☒ Georgia Miller

☒ Steve Baker

☐ Jim Hartsook

Invited Guests:

Other Attendees:

Stan Gamso, Counsel; Brent Engle InfoComm; Smithville Digital representatives.

#### **III. Open Issues**

a) Smithville Update – Smithville was represented by Bart, John and Cullen. They presented the monthly check and reported that they are getting close to paying an additional sum each month as the volume of the business is increasing.

Smithville indicated that they were notified last night that IUPUC has signed a contract with them for services. As for new business, they met with Cummins yesterday about installing fiber services to various Cummins sites. They have also discussed fiber services with AEI and The Republic through TLS.

Bart reported they were going to update their pin map but have additional information they would like to include on it so will provide that next time.

Indianapolis Boulevard is an opportunity for them as there are businesses out there that have a need for additional services. Also, Walesboro is broadband deprived. Smithville is exploring services to NTN, The Republic and Cummins in that area.

The southeast corridor is an area Smithville is exploring also as there are industrial sites there.

Smithville's representative attended the right-of-way meeting with the City Engineer who presented the City's three-year plan and discussed opportunities to install conduit in those areas when the streets are opened. City Utilities presented a similar plan. There will be quarterly meetings going forward that Smithville plans to attend.

As for City Utilities, Keith Reeves would like to have a conduit in the Walesboro areas as soon as possible; however, part of that conduit installation may have to be done with the installation of the new city sewer system in that area. Smithville further reported that they would like to tap into other assets in the area to meet the needs of the Walesboro area.

The Chair suggested that City Utilities be added to the agenda for next month to discuss their expansion project and needs for fiber.

Smithville will also be discussing with their contractors the economic feasibility for additional installation to determine a possible cost benefit ratio.

b) Right of Way Update

Some information was presented by Smithville. Mike Jamerson, however, was not in attendance, so there was no further report. The Chair noted that many of these projects will now be affected by the 2009, 2010, and 2011 budget changes.

c) Wireless RFP

Chris, Brent and Oakel met with the various wireless stakeholders on Monday, April 7. All parties agreed that they are not in a position at the present time to spend several million dollars to provide wireless service to the community. The consensus was to pursue the Verizon broadband access cards for the public safety vehicles and then to try to target various hotspots as needed. The rationale for this recommendation was the affordability of the system. There is some information on the Web that city-based systems do not appear to be adequate to meet the originally envisioned needs. The densities for wireless access points differ from the original models that cities originally proposed, and there have been recent changes in the FCC rules and certain technical changes with the WiMax design. All of these changes call into question the need to install a wireless system within the community. It is generally perceived that now is not the appropriate time to do this.

It was agreed, however, by the stakeholders, to spend approximately \$25,000 for the Columbus Fire Department and the Columbus Police Department to have access to the Verizon broadband cards, and then to deploy the hotspots on an as-needed basis. Concluding that, there will be a review of the wireless needs and changes to the hardware and FCC changes in one year.

The stakeholders recommended to the chairman, and the chairman thus recommended to the Committee, that the TAC should make such a recommendation to the County Council along with the rationale. After a general discussion, the consensus of the Committee members was that the chairman should make this recommendation.

d) Fiber Extension to City Utilities

The proposed draft of the fiber extension RFP had been previously circulated to the Committee members. Brent noted that Bart from Smithville had indicated there was nothing in the RFP that would allow for the extension of the conduit, fiber installation, and management in the 10th Street to the various nodes. In subsequent discussion, Brett was authorized to include such language in the RFP. The Committee members discussed the fiber extension RFP along with the modifications. All parties agreed with the timetable and schedule that had been established within the instrument.

Parties agreed that Brent would finalize the RFP and circulate same to the Committee members who agreed to approve the form of the RFP in today's meeting. Brent would then be instructed to forward same to the Clerk Treasurer for dissemination pursuant to the timetable. It was agreed by the Committee members that if there were objections to the final form, any individual could raise an objection and stop the process. With that, Georgia moved the Committee to approve the RFP with modifications as discussed and for directions to grant the RFP for dissemination pursuant to the timetable contained therein. She further moved that the final draft be circulated to all Committee members who would review same, and if there were objections, to notify the chairman. All activities on the RFP would then cease, and any and all changes and modifications would be discussed at the next scheduled meeting of the TAC. Steve Baker seconded the motion, and upon discussion and call for a vote, the motion passed unanimously.

e) Governance (CITE) Update

Georgia reported that the committee had not met recently; however, she did note that the funding model had been removed from the original job description as well as the TAC's selection criteria. With that, she reported the plan regarding the governance model and the criteria for the local CITE could then be shared with the public. Chris reported he would be meeting with the representatives of the County on Monday morning at 8:30 a.m., April 14, and would share a copy of the CITE job description and work.

Chris also commented that he would be happy to share the job description with Mark Gerstel at Cummins regarding the possibility of an executive on loan to fill this position.

f) Update for Council

Oakel was not available at today's meeting, and the chairman suggested that

discussion of this topic be tabled until such time you as he is available.

g) Guest Updates

The chairman reported that he would contact potential guests, John Burnett of Economic Growth Council and Phil Lucius from Total Logic Systems, for the May meeting.

IV. Approval of Minutes from Prior Meeting – March 2008

The invited guest list was modified to change Brad to Bart and to include also Smithville's Tony Walton. With those changes, Steve Baker moved and Mark McClellan seconded the adoption of the March minutes. By voice vote, the motion to approve and adopt the March minutes was approved unanimously. Counsel is to make the modifications in the draft of the meeting minutes and forward same to the chairman for publication.

V. New Business

a) Counsel Fee Review

Invoices were submitted for 3-3-08 by counsel in the amount \$560.50 and an invoice dated 4-1-08 in the amount \$282.50. Georgia moved and Steve seconded approval of same. After consideration, discussion, and call for voting, the motion to approve payment of counsel's fees passed unanimously.

b) Any Other Business

The chairman reported that he had contacted Kay Kulick with Mission Management Service who will assist Bob Pittman with the Senior Center's systems needs.

VI. Call for Public Comments

There were none.

VII. Adjournment

There be no further business, the chairman adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.